

May 9, 1975

SENATOR MARVEL: May I give you one example, that is the one that Senator Marsh carried, 588, which had to do with the salary increase for state employees. There were five signatures on that bill and that's all. There were five people for it and four against it.

SENATOR BARNETT: One last question and then I hope you can say yes or no.

SENATOR MARVEL: I have difficulty saying just yes or no. Terry Carpenter used to say ...

SENATOR BARNETT: Now wait a minute. I didn't even ask the question. Are you, as the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, exempt from giving us a committee statement telling what's in that bill?

SENATOR MARVEL: No sir. I think that the report, that was passed out as each request was made and which I used in explaining the bill, is the statement that will best describe the contents of that bill plus the description that either I or another member of the committee attempted to give.

SENATOR BARNETT: Thank you. I would hope that the members of this body would seriously look at what Senator Bereuter is trying to do. His name is on the bill. Evidently, as Senator Marvel said, he supports the idea of what's in the bill. I think the big thing you have to ask yourself is if there's 3% fat in this appropriations bill, then what in heavens name do we have in all the other bills that they've sent to this floor. I don't think we've got enough time to send them back and have them go through it and cut 3% out. I would hope that you would beat down Senator Bereuter's idea and let him come back next year in the Appropriations Committee and try to do it in there in the proper manner.

PRESIDENT: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I think the concept embodied in Senator Bereuter's amendment has a lot of merit. I'm wondering if it may be just a little bit premature and not developed to its fullest. By this I mean that simply we should get the total budget, the whole picture, before us. Determine what amount to cut, what percentage we really need and apply that across the board in a separate bill. Then if the Governor elected to veto that bill it would be the Governor making the decision for the increased expenditure. The burden would be upon him. The Legislature would have afforded him the opportunity to go either direction. I would say that the idea he has is very meritorious. It's premature and not developed to its fullest potential at this time.

PRESIDENT: Senator Luedtke.

SENATOR LUEDTKE: Mr. President, I ask Senator Bereuter to yield to a question.